

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

MAIL PROCESSING NETWORK RATIONALIZATION
SERVICE CHANGES, 2011

Docket No. N2012-1

**INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY REDIRECTED
FROM WITNESS LACHANCE (USPS-T-13)
DFC/USPS-T13-7
(March 9, 2012)**

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the response to the above-listed interrogatory of Douglas F. Carlson, which was filed on February 24, 2012. The interrogatory has been redirected from witness Susan LaChance to the Postal Service for an institutional response. The interrogatory is stated verbatim and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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March 9, 2012

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REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS LACHANCE**

DFC/USPS-T13-7

If the Postal Service eliminates collection and processing of outgoing mail on Saturdays and eliminates overnight delivery standards for First- Class Mail, please confirm that voted ballots that customers deposit in a collection box after the final collection on Friday likely will not be delivered by Tuesday. If you do not confirm, please explain.

RESPONSE

If the Postal Service makes both assumptions set forth in the interrogatory, delivery after Tuesday may occur in some cases, but the likelihood of this scenario actually occurring is unknown (the interrogatory does not provide originating or destinating ZIP code information which could further affect this analysis). On the other hand, assuming a continuation of the Postal Service's current policy of Saturday collection and the planned continuation of Saturday processing operations under the new network, the likelihood of delivery after Tuesday would be even further diminished. The Postal Service is committed to working with elections officials to develop mutually beneficial methods of minimizing any adverse impacts.